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Senate Committee on Ethics and Government Operations  
Testimony of David L. Miller  
Associate Vice President for Capital Planning  
University of Wisconsin System  
Senate Bill 514

Thank you Senator Risser and members for holding this hearing today to advance four capital projects at UW-Milwaukee. My name is David Miller and I have responsibility for capital planning for the UW System.

First, I would like to provide a short explanation of why this legislation is before you today. In the 2009-11 Capital Budget, the Board of Regents requested a funding package of \$240 million of General Fund Supported Borrowing, Program Revenue Supported Borrowing, and gifts and grants spread over three-biennia for the UW-Milwaukee.

The UW-Milwaukee Master Plan Initiative was adopted in the 2009-11 Biennial Budget (Act 28) with the following allocation over three biennia: §13.48 (25s)

Biennium	GFSB	PRSB	Gift/Grant	BTF	Total
2009-11	\$43.4	\$55.6	\$60.0	\$.5	\$159.5
2011-13	\$50.0			\$.5	\$50.5
2013-15	\$30.0				\$30.0
Totals	\$123.4	\$55.6	\$60.0	\$1.0	\$240.0

The Regents request was that the Building Commission be allowed to allocate the funding to specific projects as the campus master plan progressed. The specific projects in development for which the funding could be allocated were:

- a. **Columbia-St. Mary's Hospital Acquisition and Renovation**
- b. **Freshwater Science/Great Lakes Research Facility Renovation and Addition; and Replacement of the Research Vessel "Neeskay"**
- c. **Interdisciplinary Research Complex – Phase I**
- d. **Development of Non-contiguous Land Acquisitions and Expansions**

The Building Commission recommended and the Legislature adopted a provision that required the Board of Regents develop an expenditure plan for specific projects and allocation of funds and submit the plan for enumeration by the Building Commission and Legislature.

Act 28, Section 9106 Nonstatutory provisions; Building Commission. (13)  
MILWAUKEE INITIATIVE. Notwithstanding section 18.04 (1) and (2) of the statutes, no public debt authorized for the Milwaukee initiative in section 20.866 (2) (s) 1., as created by this act, may be contracted until the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System has approved an expenditure plan for the Milwaukee initiative that includes the identification of specific projects and sources of funding and the identified projects are enumerated pursuant to section 20.924 (1) (b) of the statutes.

Senate Bill 514 as requested by the Board of Regents and recommended by the Building Commission enumerates of the following four projects from the amounts and fund sources as provided in 2009 Wisconsin Act 28:

- (a) **Freshwater Sciences Initiative: Research Building – Phase I & Neeskay Research Vessel Replacement**, at a total estimated cost of \$70,000,000 (\$43,400,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing (GFSB) 2009-11, and \$6,600,000 GFSB 2011-13, and \$20,000,000 Gifts and Grants).
- (b) **Kenwood Integrated Research Complex (IRC) Phase 1** at a total estimated cost of \$75,000,000 (\$43,400,000 existing General Fund Supported Borrowing 2011-13; \$30,000,000 existing GFSB 2013-15, and \$1,600,000 Gifts and Grants).
- (c) **Columbia St. Mary's Hospital Purchase and Redevelopment** at a total estimated cost of \$31,000,000 (\$30,000,000 existing Program Revenue Supported Borrowing and \$1,000,000 Building Trust Funds).

Project Descriptions:

**Freshwater Sciences Initiative: Research Building – Phase 1 & Neeskay Research Vessel Replacement:** This project will construct the initial phase of an Integrated Marine, Freshwater, and Atmospheric Research Laboratory. Shared research support core facilities will be created for computation and visualization, genomics, biosecurity (Biosafety Levels 2 and 3), and trace analysis. The building will also house research collaboration areas such as conference/meeting rooms, visiting scientist support, and outreach spaces.

The existing Neeskay Research Vessel is a 56-year-old converted Army T-boat that was never originally designed for research. This project will design, build, and equip a new 120-foot research vessel that will fulfill increasing demands for larger scientific crews, extended operations, dynamic positioning, contemporary laboratory environments, state-of-the-art handling capabilities, and large buoy and mooring service abilities.

**Kenwood Integrated Research Complex (IRC) – Phase 1:** This project will construct the first phase of a multiple-phase initiative to add new integrated research/teaching space to the southwest precinct of the Kenwood campus. It is anticipated to be a five- or six-story building with a basement. Pre-design work indicates that the project will create approximately 150,000 gross square feet of space.

This initiative will advance STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education, research and outreach with spaces that promote interdisciplinary collaboration and provide core resources.

**Columbia-St. Mary's Hospital Purchase and Redevelopment:** Columbia-St. Mary's Hospital (CSM) is building a new replacement facility and will vacate its facilities adjacent to the UW-Milwaukee campus by the end of 2010. This project will seek to acquire and redevelop the former Columbia Hospital, which consists of seven existing buildings and 10.9 contiguous acres to the UW-Milwaukee Kenwood campus. The CSM campus has facilities built between 1919 and 1993, totaling 828,000 gross square feet. In addition, there are 174 surface parking spaces and a five-story parking structure with 788 spaces. This project represents a major opportunity to address a wide range of campus space deficiencies. Anticipated near-term improvements will include rehabilitation of parking structure, construction of additional parking, renovation of existing buildings to accommodate academic and administrative needs, and construction of buildings for auxiliary functions.

The following table illustrates the enumeration request by project.

Project	GFSB	PRSB	Gift/Grant	BTF	Total
Freshwater Science Research Building -- Phase 1 & Neeskay Vessel Replacement	\$50.0		\$20.0		\$70.0
Kenwood IRC – Phase 1	\$73.4		\$1.6		\$75.0
Columbia St. Mary's Hospital Purchase and Redevelopment		\$30.0		\$1.0	\$31.0
Residual Authorized Funding: Future Projects		\$25.6	\$38.4		\$64.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$123.4</b>	<b>\$55.6</b>	<b>\$60.0</b>	<b>\$1.0</b>	<b>\$240.0</b>

Additional Gifts and Grants may reduce the GFSB amount needed for a given project allowing the reallocation of GFSB to other UWM initiative projects.

While construction will not begin on the projects until the advance enumerated funds are released in July 2011, it is important that this legislation be passed in this session so that the projects can be moved forward from the planning stage into final design. As mentioned earlier, the release of any UWM Initiative funds was contingent upon approval of this expenditure plan and enumeration of the specific projects.

Thank you and I would be glad to answer any questions.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**JON RICHARDS**

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

**SB 514**

**Testimony for the Committee on Ethics Reform and Government Operations  
February 10, 2010**

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to testify today on this important legislation. This is an exciting time at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. Under the leadership of Chancellor Carlos Santiago, UWM has positioned itself to become Wisconsin's second major research institution. SB 514 will allow UWM to continue building on that momentum.

This bill authorizes the State Building Commission to add three projects at UWM. First it authorizes monies to be used for the construction of a School of Freshwater Sciences and the purchase of a replacement research vessel which has outlived its prime. Next, this legislation allows for the construction of the Kenwood Integrated Research Complex, and for the acquisition and redevelopment of Columbia Hospital next to UWM's main campus.

I want to speak specifically about UWM's efforts to become the North American center for Freshwater Research. Last year, the United Nations designated Milwaukee as a world center for fresh water science and technology. The construction of a brand new facility to house the expanding School of Freshwater Sciences at UWM will help ensure that the Milwaukee region, and ultimately the state of Wisconsin, will continue to lead the way in the burgeoning field of fresh water technology.

Southeast Wisconsin is retooling its economy and is starting to get an internationally respected water industry cluster off the ground. The research capacity at UW-Milwaukee is being matched with a commitment from Milwaukee's business community and the City of Milwaukee to build a water-based research-industrial cluster that could bring to Southeast Wisconsin the economic success the Madison area saw with its investment in life sciences at UW-Madison.

I urge you to support this important legislation. Thank you.